

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 003241
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY NEA:WBRUBECK:BDF
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R 060233Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANA
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: GDS; TAGS: PGOV, IS, EG, US, YE

SUBJECT: YEMEN FONMIN VIEWS ON EGYPT-ISRAEL TALKS

REF: SANA 33

1. YOUR REMARKS TO ASNAJ ON HIS PROPOSAL, REFTTEL, WERE

ESSENTIALLY APPROPRIATE. YOU SHOULD TELL HIM THAT WE APPRECIATE HIS VIEWS AND OF COURSE REMAIN RECEPTIVE TO HIS FURTHER THOUGHTS. (FYI. THERE HAS BEEN NO APPROACH HERE BY YEMENI AMBASSADOR.) WE APPRECIATE THE UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT THE YARG IS GIVING TO SADAT'S EFFORTS.

2. AS YOU SEE FIT, YOU MAY ALSO POINT OUT THAT OUR PURPOSE THROUGHOUT HAS BEEN TO ENGAGE THE PARTIES IN DIRECT NEGOTIATION AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT, AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, PRESENT TALKS CAN BE BROADENED TO INCLUDE OTHER PARTIES. BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL HAVE STATED THEIR COMMITMENT TO COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT AND WE BELIEVE PRESENT TALKS HOLD REAL PROMISE OF PROGRESS TOWARD THIS GOAL. WE WOULD BE MOST RELUCTANT, AT THIS TIME, TO INTERPOSE A DIFFERENT PROPOSAL FOR NEGOTIATING CONTEXT AND FEEL THAT IT IS FOR THE PARTIES THEMSELVES TO DETERMINE WHEN A FURTHER STAGE AND FORMAT FOR NEGOTIATIONS MAY BE DESIRABLE. OUR ROLE WILL CONTINUE TO BE SUPPORTIVE OF THEIR OWN EFFORTS AND WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO THE GOAL OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND JUST SETTLEMENT.

3. FYI. IN A RECENT SAUNDERS CONVERSATION WITH WALDHEIM, SYG TOLD HIM THAT AMBASSADOR OF NORTH YEMEN HAD SENT HIM A NOTE URGING HIM TO CALL A NEW YORK MEETING ALONG LINES OF SYG'S EARLIER PROPOSAL. SYG IS NOT PUSHING THIS AT THIS POINT BUT BELIEVES THERE MAY COME A TIME WHEN IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR SAKE OF INVOLVING SYRIA TO PROVIDE SOME
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INTERMEDIATE PREPARATORY MEETING BETWEEN CAIRO CONFERENCE AND GENEVA BECAUSE SYRIANS ARE OPPOSED TO GOING TO GENEVA ON TERMS SET BY SADAT. WALDHEIM CITED NORTH YEMENI APPROACH AS INDICATION THAT OTHERS SAW SAME PROBLEM HE DID, BUT HE INDICATED HE WAS NOT PURSUING THIS ACTIVELY NOW.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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